IN THE CLAIMS

1-14 (cancelled)

15. (original) A receiver comprising:

a trellis decoder that is configured to decode a first data stream and a second data stream,

wherein

the trellis decoder decodes

the first data stream based on a first symbol map and corresponding first metric table, and

the second data stream based on a second symbol map and corresponding second metric table,

wherein

the second data map is configured to provide a higher gain to bits of the second data stream than the first data map provides to bits of the first data stream.

16. (original) The receiver of claim 15, further including:

a de-interleaver, operably coupled to the trellis decoder, that reorders bytes from the trellis decoder,

a Reed-Solomon decoder, operably coupled to the de-interleaver, that corrects errors among bytes from the de-interleaver, and

a de-randomizer, operably coupled to the Reed-Solomon decoder, that reorders data from the Reed-Solomon decoder to provide packets corresponding to the first data stream and second data stream.

17. (original) The receiver of claim 16, further including

a multiplexer, operably coupled to the trellis decoder, that is configured to order the bytes of the first and second data stream for processing by the de-interleaver,

wherein

the multiplexer receives a control input that controls a selection of bytes corresponding to the first data stream or the second data stream.

18. (original) The receiver of claim 16, wherein
the receiver is configured to decode at least the first data stream in substantial conformance with ATSC standards for the transmission of digital television signals.

19. (original) The receiver of claim 15, further including
a post processor that further decodes the second data stream via a subsequent error correcting process.

20. (original) The receiver of claim 19, wherein
the post processor is enabled in dependence upon a control parameter in an MPEG header.